



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF



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1 MAY 1965

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DAILY BRIEF
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LATE ITEM
(Information as of 1200 EDT)

Dominican Republic

The military situation appears to have stabilized for the moment, as the political and diplomatic maneuvering intensifies.

The relative quiet last night, as Ambassador Bennett points out, resulted partly from the cease-fire and partly from the presence of US forces. Pure exhaustion is also playing a role, he adds. Some sniper fire against the marines was continuing early this morning, but the overall tactical situation is unchanged. The rebels still control the heart and large areas of Santo Domingo. Peasants arriving in the city this morning report they saw no signs of rebel uprisings in the rural areas.

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1. Vietnam

No major new developments have been reported this morning.

Today's Peiping People's Daily again discusses the sending of "volunteers" to Vietnam. The language appears aimed at suggesting their dispatch is a certainty. The editorial says that China will support the Vietnamese with everything they need "until our men are sent to fight."

There has been no sign of any new Viet Cong offensive timed to coincide with May Day.

2. Ghana

Nkrumah has sent a delegation to Peiping with orders to seek Chinese arms and instructors, as well as a Chinese pledge to assist Ghana in the event of attack.

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At home, some of the steam appears to have gone out of the group of senior military and police officers plotting Nkrumah's overthrow. They are now said to have only vague plans to act sometime in June or July. Public resentment against Nkrumah's domestic policies remains high, however.

3. Bolivia

Barrientos renounced his candidacy for the presidency last night. This move reduces the chances of an immediate political crisis, but no solution for Bolivia's confused political future is yet in sight.

Barrientos also said he would pre-
side over free elections scheduled for
31 October.

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The threat of a split among his military backers still exists, and most politicians strongly oppose him.

The entire picture could be changed today, if the scheduled Communist and extreme leftist demonstrations get out of hand. The army is alert, however, and the police, whose loyalty to the junta is suspect, have been confined to their barracks.

4. West Germany

The Bonn government, according to the US Embassy, has publicly and officially presented a "front of studied calm" in response to De Gaulle's 27 April speech.

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